

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0052] beginning at page 11, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

Polymer subunits: As used herein “polymer subunit” or “subunit” refers to the polymer’s individual molecular building blocks. In homopolymers the subunits are identical monomers such as $[[[C]]poly[D]]ethylene$ or $[[[C]]poly[D]]styrene$. However, copolymers can have numerous possible configurations. Bipolymers are the simplest copolymer and will be used in the following example. Bipolymers are composed of two dissimilar subunits. The subunits can be separate monomers, or oligomers. For example, a bipolymer having monomeric subunits is composed of two monomers such as ethylene (E) and styrene (S). The polymer chain can be random (for example, DNA and polypeptides are quintessential random polymers), non-random, (also referred to occasionally as step-growth polymers) blocked or segmented. In random bipolymers, as the name implies, there is no defined order to the monomer sequence, for example --EESSESSEESSES-- (of course reaction kinetics may favor one coupling reaction over another; these examples are merely for illustrative purposes). Non-random bipolymers would have an alternating configuration such as ---ESESESESESESESESES--. Block copolymers have a high number of covalently bonded repeat subunits such as –EEEEEEEEESSSSSSSSSSSEEEEEEEEE—(ABA configuration) or –EEEEEEEEEEEEESSSSSSSSSSS—(an AB_n configuration). Finally, segmented bipolymers have a small number of repeat subunits such as --EESSESSEESS-. If a third polymer is added, a terpolymer results. For example, say acrylic acid is added (A). A random terpolymer would look like --AAESASSEAEESAAESEASEASEA--. A non-random terpolymer would look like --ASEASEASEASEASEASEASE--. And a block terpolymer may look like this --AAASSSEEEAAASSSEEEAAASSSEEE--. There are myriad other possible configurations depending on the number of monomeric subunits involved. Still more complex copolymers are possible when the subunits are polymers themselves (oligomeric subunits). Copolymer and terpolymers composed of oligomeric subunits often resemble random and block polymers in their behavior and therefore will